1	2	3
29.	Delhi	1837
30.	Pondicherry	8212
31.	Chhattisgarh	5104
32.	Jharkhand	1364
33.	UttaranchaJ	5663
	TOTAL:	1442128

PMRY Schemes for Tripura

1611. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of PMRY schemes for Tripura has been reduced this year in comparison to the last year; and

(b) whether Government would take suitable steps to raise the target to exceed that of the last year on account of the increasing order of unemployment in the State having no industry, so to say?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) As per the request of the Government of Tripura, the target for the State for the year 2002-03 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) has been restored to 3000 i.e. that of last year's level. Requests, if any, from the State Government for additional target would be considered on merits.

Efforts to develop Khadi and Village Industries

1612. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps has been taken by Government to develop Khadi and Village Industries during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any committee has been set up to review and to develop the Khadi and Village Industries; and

(d) if so, the details of the report submitted by such a committee?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) provides assistance for the development of Khadi and Village Industries. In current financial year, a budget allocation of Rs. 392 crores has been made to KVIC under Plan Head.

The Government has decided to continue the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of KVIC during 10th Plan period i.e. 31.03.2007, as well with a proposed investment of Rs. 1250 crores, generating 2.0 million additional employment opportunities in KVI sector.

(c) and (d) No Committee has been set up to review and to develop the Khadi and Village Industries during the current year. However, the Government vide its Resolution dated 5th October, 2000 constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission to suggest suitable measures for strengthening the Khadi and Village Industry Sector. The recommendations made by the Pant Committee inter-alia include long term rebate policy, choice of rebate and MDA to Khadi institutions; working capital to Khadi institutions; Insurance to Khadi workers; quality control, marketing development, advertisement, brand promotion, renovation and modernization of bhawans and marketing outlets, design and packaging facilities, upgradalion of data bank, cluster development, etc.

Based on the recommendations made by the Committee, the Government of India had announced a package on 14.05.2001 .The package is under different phases of implementation.

Utilization of Beaches blessed with Thorium

1613. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRrGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken to utilize Kerala and Tamil Nadu beaches blessed with Thorium for production of electricity at an affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): Considering the enormous energy potential of the abundant Thorium resource in beach sands, the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has already worked out plans for generation of nuclear power based on Thorium. As a first step the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has designed a 300 MW(e) Advanced